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Acing it

The new \$82 million Queensland Tennis Centre at Tennyson opened in early January to the sounds of the first combined WTA/ATP event that Queensland had ever hosted – the Brisbane International.

The huge project, which began in 2006, is part of the Tennyson Riverside Development by the State Government and developer Mirvac.

The Department of Public Works was engaged on behalf of the State as the Construction Authority to both administer the development and project manage the construction of

Queensland's newest major sporting facility.

The Hon. Robert Swarten MP, Minister for Public Works said the Queensland Tennis Centre had been built to international standards, and would put Brisbane back on the world tennis map.

"The Queensland Tennis Centre is very important

for both Brisbane and Queensland as a whole," said Mr Swarten.

"Not only is it a world-class venue that is already attracting the world's best players, it will become the breeding ground for tomorrow's stars."

Mr Swarten said the complex has a total of 23 courts – 17 plexicushion, four natural clay and two natural grass – with all courts boasting state of the art lighting systems for night play.

The department's project manager, Peter Hockley, oversaw this project for the State from inception. Peter said he was proud to have been part of such a challenging and rewarding project.

"There were many challenges with a project of this size and complexity, and one was the unseasonal winter rain," Peter said.

Another challenge was the addition of new roof structures to the centre court stadium and adjacent show courts, which were designed in at a later date to accommodate the January tournament," Peter said.

The highlight of the whole project for Peter, however, was seeing the completion of the fabric roof over the centre court.

That was a major milestone and signalled that we were well on track for the opening."

The Queensland Tennis Centre is a Stadiums Queensland venue and will be managed by Tennis Queensland.

